

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EA-06 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9816

INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

S E C R E T USUN 1130

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SHUM, SREF, UN, CI, VN, US

SUBJECT: CHILEAN REQUEST FOR USG VIEWS ON UN ACTION ON
VIET NAM

REFS: (A) STATE 077990 (B) SANTIAGO 1989 (C) SANTIAGO 1991
(D) SANTIAGO 2084

1. CHILE'S UN MISSION ADVISED US IT WAS CONSULTED ON POSSIBLE
MOVE BY CHILE TO TAKE FORMAL INITIATIVE IN UN CONNECTION HUMAN
RIGHTS IN VIET NAM. ACCORDINGLY, PURSUANT INSTRUCTIONS PARA 2
REFTEL (A), USUN CONVEYED TO CHILE'S MISSION POINTS MADE BY
AMB. POPPER TO FONMIN CARVAJAL ON APRIL 3 (PARA 4, REFTEL (B)).
MINISTER-COUNSELOR HOLGER OF CHILE'S MISSION STATED THOSE
POINTS COINCIDED WITH RECOMMENDATIONS HE MADE TO HIS AMBASSADOR,
VICE ADMIRAL HUERTA. ACCORDING, HOLGER, CHILE'S EMBASSY IN
WASHINGTON SHARED SIMILAR VIEW AND ALSO RECOMMENDED TO SANTIAGO
AGAINST INITIATIVE BY CHILE IN UN ON VIET NAM. UNLESS GOC WERE
TO OVERRIDE THESE RECOMMENDATIONS, HOLGER DID NOT FORESEE FURTHER
ACTION BY CHILE. (REFTEL ((D) HAS CONFIRMED NO FORMAL
INITIATIVE BY CHILE.) HOLGER INDICATED THAT, IF CHILE WERE TO
ACT, IT WOULD PROBABLY DO SO WITHIN FRAMEWORK OF LETTER,
DATED JAN. 31, 1966 FROM US PERM REP TO PRESIDENT OF SECURITY
COUNCIL ASKING FOR URGENT MEETING OF COUNCIL TO CONSIDER
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SITUATION IN VIET NAM (S/7382, 5 JULY 1966). THIS LETTER IS

NOW ITEM 67 ON LIST OF "MATTERS WITH WHICH SECURITY COUNCIL IS SEIZED" (S/11593, 7 JAN. 1975).

2. WITH REGARD PARA 2 REFTEL (C), CHILE HAS SENT STATEMENT TO UN CONCERNING SITUATION IN VIET NAM. ON APRIL 2, AMB. HUERTA WROTE TO SYG WALDHEIM TO ASK LATTER TO CIRCULATE AMONG THE DELEGATIONS OF MEMBER STATES AND OBSERVERS TEXT OF COMMUNIQUE ON SITUATION IN SOUTH VIETNAM ISSUED SAME DATE BY MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. ON APRIL 3, UN SECRETARIAT CIRCULATED AMB. HUERTA'S NOTE AND ITS ENCLOSURE, THE COMMUNIQUE. TEXTS OF THESE CHILEAN DOCUMENTS, RECEIVED USUN P.M. APRIL 7, FOLLOWS:

(A) QUOTE SIR,

ON INSTRUCTION OF MY GOVERNMENT, I HAVE THE HONOUR TO REQUEST YOU TO CIRCULATE AMONG THE DELEGATIONS OF MEMBER STATES AND OBSERVERS THE TEXT OF THE COMMUNIQUE, ISSUED TODAY BY THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF CHILE ON THE SITUATION IN SOUTH VIET NAM, A COPY OF WHICH IS ANNEXED TO THIS NOTE.

I TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO RENEW TO YOU, SIR, THE ASSURANCES OF MY HIGHEST AND MOST DISTINGUISHED CONSIDERATION.

(SIGNED) ISMAEL HUERTA VICE-ADMIRAL AMBASSADOR, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE UNQUOTE

(B) QUOTE DECLARATION BY THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF CHILE CONCERNING THE SITUATION IN VIET-NAM

2 APRIL 1975

THE PEOPLE AND GOVERNMENT OF CHILE CANNOT REPRESS A FEELING OF HORROR AT THE INHUMAN METHODS BEING EMPLOYED BY THE FORCES OF NORTH VIET-NAM AND THE VIET CONG IN THEIR PRESENT AGGRESSION IN SOUTH VIET-NAM. GIVING EXPRESSION TO THIS FEELING, THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF CHILE ECHOES THE SUPREME PONTIFF'S APPEAL FOR SOLIDARITY WITH THE VICTIMS AND DRAWS THE ATTENTION OF WORLD PUBLIC OPINION TO THE NEED FOR DEMANDING OBSERVANCE OF THE RULES OF INTERNATIONAL LAW THAT ARISE FROM THE USAGES OF CIVILIZED COUNTRIES, FROM HUMANITARIAN LAWS AND FROM THE DICTATES OF CONSCIENCE.

BY THEIR AGGRESSION, NORTH VIET-NAM AND THE VIET CONG HAVE VIOLATED THE PARIS AGREEMENT FOR ENDING THE WAR AND RESTORING
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PEACE TO VIET-NAM NOT ONLY BECAUSE THEY HAVE BROKEN THE CEASE-FIRE THEY HAD AGREED TO. THEY HAVE ALSO VIOLATED IT BECAUSE THEY HAVE TOTALLY DISREGARDED THE RIGHT OF THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH VIET-NAM TO SELF-DETERMINATION, A RIGHT WHICH THEY HAD RECOGNIZED AS "SACRED AND INALIENABLE". WHAT IS EVEN WORSE, THE ACTS OF CRUELTY THAT HAVE CHARACTERIZED THIS AGGRESSION INFRINGE THE RULES OF HUMANE CONDUCT IN WAR THAT WERE DRAFTED AT THE HAGUE AND GENEVA. THESE RULES STATE THAT BELLIGERENTS DO

NOT HAVE THE RIGHT TO AN UNRESTRICTED CHOICE OF MEANS FOR HARASSING THE ENEMY; THEY REQUIRE BELLIGERENTS TO SPARE THE LIVES OF DEFEATED OR WOUNDED MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES AND TO KEEP CIVILIANS OUT OF THE FIGHTING, SAFEGUARDING THEIR LIVES AND PROPERTY AND NOT HARASSING THEM IN ANY WAY, PARTICULARLY WHEN THEY ARE FLEEING, AND THEY ALSO PROHIBIT BELLIGERENTS FROM DEVASTATING TOWNS AND VILLAGES THAT HAVE NO STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE.

THE CRIMES BEING COMMITTED IN VIET-NAM HAVE NOT YET ELICITED ANY REACTION FROM THE UNITED NATIONS, WHICH IS LAMENTABLE, BUT THEY HAVE EVOKED REPUGNANCE AND REPUDIATION ON THE PART OF CIVILIZED COUNTRIES, WHICH HAVE A DUTY TO AVOID ANY RETROGRESSION TO BARBAROUS METHODS THAT ARE INCOMPATIBLE WITH THE MORAL AND JURIDICAL PROGRESS OF OUR TIME.

CONSCIOUS OF THIS DUTY, CHILE DENOUNCES THESE CRIMES BEFORE THE WORLD, CONDEMNS THEM, EXPRESSES ITS SOLIDARITY WITH THE VICTIMS, MOST ESPECIALLY WITH THE HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF REFUGEES, AND IS CONFIDENT THAT INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC OPINION WILL COMPEL THE AGGRESSORS TO RESPECT THE RULES OF HUMANE CONDUCT IN WAR AND WILL THUS HELP TO ALLEVIATE THE SUFFERING WHICH IS ONCE AGAIN BEING INFLICTED ON THE HEROIC PEOPLE OF SOUTH VIET-NAM. UNQUOTE
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